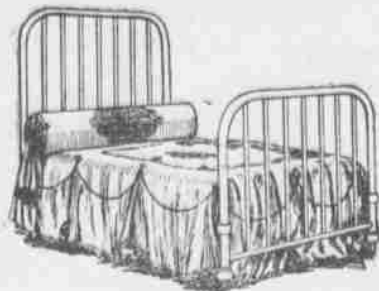
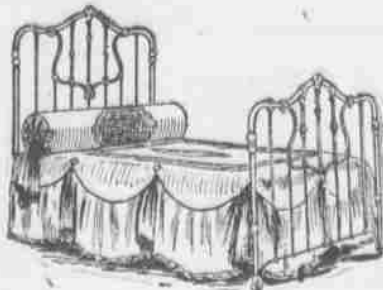


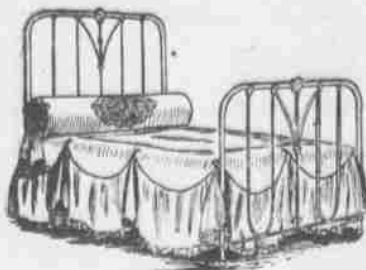
BARGAINS IN BEDS



No. 806
STEEL BED, white or cream
\$18.00



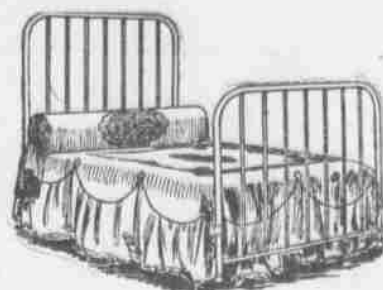
No. 922
White, blue or green
\$12.00



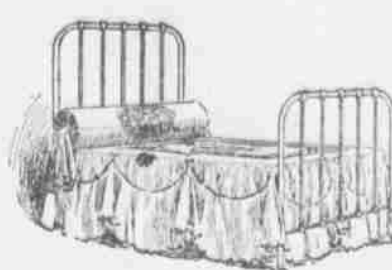
No. 998
White, blue or green trimmings
\$8.00



No. 967
White, blue or green
\$8.00



No. 802
White or cream
\$12.50



No. 966
White, blue or green
\$7.50

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Intelligent Voting In San Francisco

The following article is from the Merchants' Association Review, San Francisco, for December. It makes an agreeable showing of civic virtue for the hitherto graft-ridden metropolis of the Golden Gate:

San Francisco's vote on thirty-eight proposed charter amendments submitted to the public at a special election on November 15th, displayed the highest order of political intelligence. It is safe to say that no other community in this country could have acquitted itself any better and most of them would not have done so well.

In the first place, much credit is due those members of the community who, because they did not understand the proposals, stayed away from the polls. It takes a high degree of sagacity to tell when to stay home, and the right time is when you would not know what you were voting about if you went. Only citizenship that is intelligent is worth anything.

As for the forty-four thousand that went to the polls, their keen discrimination is one of the most encouraging signs, politically, that have been granted this long-suffering community for years. Everybody with political common sense unworried by self-interest, must feel better for the adoption of amendments 7 and 8—restoring the Australian ballot, providing for majority rule, and abolishing party labels on the candidates; a sort of political pure-food law, prohibiting false witness about the quality of the goods. So with the outcome of the salary-swelling proposals, turned down; and the one imposing onerous restrictions on the street railway franchises, also turned down; and the ones empowering the city to build tunnels and subways on the district plan, approved. Straight through, the vote showed keen discernment of the public interest, even in the mistakes that were made, for what mistakes were made either were not serious or were committed by the narrowest margins.

It is a pity that No. 38, making \$3 a day the minimum wage on public work, was passed. Not a single one of the commercial organizations op-

posing it is in favor of low wages for workmen of any kind. Their opposition was on other ground. Nobody at present working for the city and nobody that worked for it during the preceding administration, has received less than three dollars a day, and nobody proposes that they shall. But when it comes to the contracts for the construction of works in the Hetch Hetchy project, this amendment is likely to have serious results. A contractor who would have figured on paying his labor thirty-five to forty dollars a month and board—and in those mountain wilds labor will have to board in the contractor's camp, or not eat—will now have to charge enough for board to make up the extra cost. And it is likely the workmen will get the worst of that deal, at this end of it, and the city at the other. The majority in favor was only 297 in a total of 38,991, probably due to insufficient discussion.

Of the 38 recommendations made by the Merchants' Association, the San Francisco Real Estate Board, the Down Town Association, and the Civic League of Improvement Clubs, 33 carried. The Merchants' Association is not trying to make a showing of voting strength, because it is not in party politics but inasmuch as it does undertake a little volunteer committee work for the community by the investigation of proposed changes in the organic law of the city and the state, its officers can not help feeling gratified that their efforts this time have not been thrown away, and that the public seems to have confidence in the association's sincerity.

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